

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

The abstract as amended on the following page with a replacement abstract shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikeout~~ or with double brackets [[ ]] where the text being deleted contains a hyphen "-" that would be obscured by ~~strikeout~~ as permitted by 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(ii) and MPEP 714(II)(B) (see MPEP page 700-239).

Please REPLACE the original abstract filed on February 18, 2004, with the amended abstract on the following page.

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A recording medium storing a write protection information, and a write protection method for protecting data recorded on a recordable and/or rewritable disc from unwanted overwriting or erasing. In order for To provide write protection of a disc in a bare state that is usually used in a cartridge having a recognition switch for [[write-protection]] write protection, such as a DVD-RAM, write protection information is recorded in a Lead-in area, a Lead-out area or a recording information area other than a user data area of the disc, and the data is protected from unwanted overwriting or erasing using the write protection information. Also, even though Even when the write protection information stored on a disc does not match the state of a recognition switch of a case for [[write-protection]] write protection, the data can be prevented from unwanted overwriting or erasing. Thus, the write Thus, write protection can be ensured when a recordable and/or rewritable recording medium, such as a DVD-RAM, a DVD-R and/or a DVD-RW, is used in a bare state.